THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) The Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Association of India and Hotel Association of India have been demanding for infrastructure status for the hotel industry as has been granted to other sectors like roads, power, telecommunication, airports, ports etc. This benefit allows income tax holiday for ten consecutive assessment years. This concession, it is urged, will provide the incentive to the industry to meet the acute shortage of hotel rooms in the country and is justified in view of the fact that hotels are capital intensive and have a long gestation period. Tourism sector has multiplier effect on the economy and large employment creation potential. However, this demand has not been agreed to by the Government.

National Mission for Monuments

*60. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to launch the National Mission for Monuments;

(b) if so, the details of the mandate;

(c) what would be the procedure of selecting the monuments for conservation;

(d) in what manner Government propose to generate resources through non-budgetary sources;

(e) whether Government have identified the resource agencies to implement the Mission and in what manner Government propose to get the requisite expertise to implement such a Mission indicating the details thereof; and

(f) whether Government propose to involve the NGOs and Civil Society Organisation in the Mission, if so, what would be the procedure to identify the same?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government proposes to launch a National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities.

(b) The mandate of the Mission would include:

(i) Developing a comprehensive database for unprotected build heritage and antiquities,

(ii) To conserve in a sustainable manner selected unprotected monuments,

(iii) Inculcating and promoting awareness on built heritage and antiquarian wealth and participation in conservation efforts,

(iv) Capacity building in State Archaeology Departments and NGOs in heritage protection and preservation, and

(v) To strengthen communication and dissemination levels of information through popular literature and publications.

(c) Detailed working procedures of the Mission are yet to be finalized, which will be done in consultation with the State level implementation committees.

(d) There is no proposal at present to generate resources through non-budgetary sources.

(e) Archaeological Survey of India will be the nodal agency to implement the Mission. In addition, the Mission would draw upon the expertise available with State Governments, NGOs, Universities and Academic Bodies and other research organizations.

(f) As stated above, the Government proposes to involve NGOs, other professionals and academic organizations and other voluntary organizations which would be identified by the State level implementation Committees.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Training to pilots on foggy conditions

186. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of airlines which are not having pilots trained in low visibility foggy conditions;